LIBRARY

BRIDPORT
BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Senior Public Health Inspector

for the Year

1968

Tel. No. Bridport 2385/6

Health Centre,
North Allington,
Bridport,
Dorset.

June, 1969.

To The Worshipful The Mayor of Bridport Borough,
Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year 1968. I came to Bridport in November, 1968 so this report is concerned mainly with the work done while Dr. Meadows was your Medical Officer of Health. Mr. Angus, your Senior Public Health Officer has prepared much of the report.

Miss Lawrence, clerk in the health centre has as usual carried out the work involved in typing and assembling the report.

I am your obedient servant,

E Jackson.

Medical Officer of Health.

The report is set out in the following order :-

	Page No.
Public Health Committee, Staff	1.
Vital Statistics	2 - 5
Prevalence and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases	6 - 8
National Assistance Act. 1948	8
Housing	9 - 14
Inspection and Supervision of Food	15 - 18
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act. 1963	18 - 19
Water Supplies	20 - 23
Drainage and Sewerage	23
Atmospheric Pollution	24
Shops Act 1950	24
Petroleum Spirit	24 - 25
Swimming Facilities	25
Rodent Control	25 - 26
Poisonous Plant	27
Public Cleansing	27
Camping Sites	27
Schools	27
Pet Animals Act 1951	28
Noise Abatement 1960	28
Scrap Metal Dealers Act.1964	28
Factories Act. 1961	28 - 29
Summary of visits by Public Health Inspector	30
Riparian Local Authority	31 - 33
Clinics - details of where they are held	34

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b28952194

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman	Alderman H. Lewis.
Vice Chairman	Councillor A.B. Mason.
Alderman P.C. Norfolk.	Councillor L.H. Dibdin.
Councillor F.B. Chubb.	Councillor E. Lewis.
Councillor M.J. Fearn.	Councillor Mrs K.M. Shirley.
Councillor L.A.J. Radnor.	Councillor J. Stickland.

Ex officio Alderman H.G. Smith. Mayor.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health..... John G. Meadows, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. until 31/8/68.
E. Jackson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. appointed 1/11/68.

Also Medical Officer of Health for Bridport and Beaminster Rural District Councils and Lyme Regis Borough Council, and Senior Assistant County Medical Officer. 5/11 of time allocated to Dorset County Council and 6/11 shared between the four District Councils.

Senior Public Health Inspector.....J.C. Angus, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H..
Pupil Public Health Inspector.....R. Singleton (joint appointment) until 31/7/68
Additional Public Health Inspector..." " as from 1/8/68.
Pupil Public Health Inspector.....D. Hayball (joint appointment) appt. 12/8/68
Clerk to the Medical Officer.....Miss B.E. Lawrence.
Rodent Operator.....J. Tattershall (part-time)

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Population. 6,510

Area Comparability Factor. Births - 1.20 Deaths 0.66

This is worked out for each District by the Registrar General. Its object is to level out differences in the age and sex constitution of the populations of the various districts and its use allows statistical comparison to be made between areas.

Live Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Registered....	36	45	81
Legitimate.....	34	41	75
Illegitimate.....	2	4	6

Live Birth Rate per 1000 population - Crude 12.4 Corrected 14.88
Live Births Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate 0.88
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births - 7.4

Still Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Registered.	2	0	2
Legitimate.....	2	0	2
Illegitimate.....	0	0	0

Still-birth Rate per 1,000 live and still-births - 24.1

Total Live and Still-Births.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Registered.	38	45	83

Deaths (all ages)	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Registered.	48	78	126

Death Rate per 1000 population - Crude 19.4 Corrected 12.8
Deaths Ratio of local adjusted death rate to national rate - 1.08

Deaths of Infants.	Males.			Females.		
	Legit.	Illegit.	Total.	Legit.	Illegit.	Total.
Under 1 year of age.	0	0	0	1	0	1
Under 4 weeks of age.	0	0	0	1	0	1
Under 1 week of age.	0	0	0	1	0	1

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births..... 12.3
Legitimate " " " " legitimate live births..... 13.5
Illegitimate" " " " illegitimate live births..... 0
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).... 12.3
Early Neonatal " " (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births).... 12.3
Perinatal " " (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)..... 36.1

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths..... 0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births..... 0

VITAL STATISTICS.

(N.A. = not available)

	1931	1940	1950	1960	1965	1966	1967	1968
Population	5858	5903	6081	6580	6530	6510	6510	6510
Rateable Value	£36793	£43883	£47181	£101034	£259323	£266993	£280053	£287769
Produce of a Penny Rate	£146	£172	£190	£400	£1000	£1015	£1050	£1100
BIRTHS.								
Live Births	71	85	99	87	96	108	89	81
Legitimate	66	84	94	80	87	98	82	75
Illegitimate	5	1	5	7	9	10	7	6
Live Birth Rate (crude)	12.1	14.4	16.3	13.2	14.7	16.6	13.7	12.4
Live Birth Rate (corrected)	N.A.	N.A.	17.3	14.1	17.6	19.9	16.4	14.9
Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	0.96	0.88
Live Birth Rate (Eng. & Wales)	15.8	14.8	15.8	17.1	18.1	17.1	17.2	16.9
INFANT MORTALITY.								
Still Births	N.A.	3	3	6	1	2	2	2
Still Birth Rate	N.A.	34.0	29.4	64.5	10.3	18.2	22	24.1
Still Birth Rate (Eng. & Wales)	41	37	23	19.7	15.7	15.4	14.8	14
Deaths under 1 year	5	4	4	1	3	2	0	1
Infantile Death Rate	70.4	46.5	40.4	11.5	31.2	18.5	0	12.3
Infantile Death Rate (Eng. & Wales)	66	57	29.8	21.7	19.0	19.0	18.3	18
Neonatal Death Rate	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	11.5	20.8	18.5	0	12.3
Neonatal Death Rate (Eng. & Wales)	32	30	19	15.6	13.0	12.9	12.5	12.3
Early neonatal Death Rate	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	11.5	20.8	18.5	0	12.3
Early neonatal Death Rate (Eng. & Wales)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	11.1	10.8	10.5
Perinatal Death Rate	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	75.3	30.9	36.4	22	36.1
Perinatal Death Rate (Eng. & Wales)	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	26.3	25.4	25
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)								
Maternal Deaths	N.A.	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Maternal Death Rate	N.A.	0	9.8	10.8	0	0	0	0
Maternal Death Rate (Eng. & Wales)	4.1	2.7	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
DEATHS.								
Total Deaths	119	108	108	90	124	122	120	126
Death Rate (crude)	20.3	14.8	17.8	13.7	19.0	18.7	18.4	19.4
Death Rate (corrected)	N.A.	N.A.	13.5	10.0	13.3	12.3	12.5	12.8
Ratio of local adjusted death rate to national rate	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1.12	1.08
Death Rate (Eng. & Wales)	12.3	14.4	11.6	11.5	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9

Registrar General's Official Return.

Causes of Death.

B 6.	Other tuberculosis including late effects.....
B 18.	Other infective and parasitic diseases.....
B 19(1)	Malignant neoplasm, stomach. .....
B 19(2)	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....
B 19(3)	Malignant neoplasm, breast.....
B 19(4)	Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....
B 19(5)	Leukaemia.....
B 19(6)	Other malignant neoplasms, etc.....
B 21	Diabetes mellitus.....
B 46(1)	Other endocrine etc diseases.....
B 46(3)	Mental disorders.....
B 46(4)	Other diseases of nervous system etc.....
B 26	Chronic Rheumatic heart disease.....
B 27	Hypertensive disease.....
B 28	Ischaemic heart disease.....
B 29	Other forms of heart disease. .....
B 30	Cerebrovascular disease.....
B 46(5)	Other diseases of circulatory system.....
B 31	Influenza.....
B 32	Pneumonia.....
B 33(1)	Bronchitis and enphysema.....
B 46(6)	Other diseases of respiratory system.....
B 34	Peptic ulcer.....
B 46(7)	Other diseases of digestive system.....
B 37	Cirrhosis of liver. .....
B 38	Nephritis and nephrosis.....
B 39	Hyperplasia of prostate.....
B 46(8)	Other diseases, genito-urinary system.....
B 46(9)	Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue.....
B 46(10)	Diseases of musculo-skeletal system.....
B 42	Congenital anomalies.....
B 43	Birth injury, difficult labour etc.....
B 45	Symptoms and ill defined conditions.....
BE 47	Motor vehicle accidents.....
BE 48	All other accidents.....
BE 49	Suicide and self inflicted injuries.....

Total.....

Bridport Borough.			Bridport R.D.			Beaminster R.D.			Lyme Regis Borough.			West Dorset. Total 1968	Total 1967.	
M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T			
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	B 6
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	B 18
0	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	2	1	0	1	5	9	B 19(1)
2	1	3	2	1	3	1	1	2	2	1	3	11	13	B 19(2)
0	2	2	0	6	6	0	3	3	0	1	1	12	8	B 19(3)
-	2	2	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	2	4	B 19(4)
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	B 19(5)
2	11	13	7	5	12	7	6	13	0	4	4	42	34	B 19(6)
1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	2	B 21
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	3		B 46(1)
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	2		B 46(3)
1	1	2	2	1	3	0	0	0	2	0	2	7		B 46(4)
2	2	4	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	7		B 26
1	2	3	0	1	1	2	1	3	1	2	3	10	9	B 27
16	9	25	25	9	34	15	5	20	4	3	7	86	75	B 28
1	3	4	3	1	4	2	5	7	2	2	4	19	47	B 29
7	14	21	13	16	29	6	17	23	6	8	14	87	61	B 30
0	5	5	0	2	2	4	3	7	1	2	3	17	21	B 46(5)
0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	B 31
7	12	19	7	4	11	2	10	12	2	1	3	45	19	B 32
4	0	4	4	2	6	4	2	6	2	3	5	21	14	B 33(1)
1	0	1	1	2	3	0	0	0	2	0	2	6	3	B 46(6)
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	B 34
0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	B 46(7)
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1		B 37
0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	B 38
0	-	0	1	-	1	0	-	0	0	-	0	1	3	B 39
2	1	3	0	2	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	7		B 46(8)
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1		B 46(9)
0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		B 46(10)
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	B 42
0	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	3	0	0	0	5	0	B 43
0	8	8	0	3	3	0	0	0	1	2	3	14	34	B 45
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	3	6	BE 47
1	1	2	0	1	1	2	1	3	2	1	3	9	8	BE 48
0	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	4	6	BE 49
48	78	126	69	66	135	56	61	117	31	34	65	443	389	

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Measles vaccine was made available in May and by the end of the year 149 children mostly of the primary school age group had been vaccinated against measles.

Infectious Diseases notified during 1968.

DISEASES.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+
Measles.	6	0	2	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals.	6	0	2	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

Quarterly Notifications 1967.

DISEASES.	Total.	1st. Qrt.	2nd. Qrt.	3rd. Qrt.	4th. Qrt.
Measles.	6	0	3	3	0
Totals.	6	0	3	3	0

Infectious Disease Notifications for Comparison.

	1931	1940	1950	1960	1965	1966	1967	1968
Diphtheria.....	1	16	0	1	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas.....	0	1	3	1	3	3	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	0	6	16	5	3	1	1	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Food Poisoning.....	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia.....	1	3	2	4	2	5	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	7	0	2	2	2	2	0	0
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	5	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Measles.....	0	129	162	0	120	6	5	6
Whooping Cough.....	0	1	22	5	0	0	0	0
Totals.....	14	163	215	22	130	17	6	6

Tuberculosis.

No new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year.

Vaccination of school children in the 13+ age group and the control of tuberculosis in cattle have both contributed to the steady decline in the incidence of tuberculosis.

Cases on the Tuberculosis Register.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total cases on the register at the end of 1967.	5	5	1	0
New cases notified during 1968.	0	0	0	0
Cases from other areas who have come to live in the district.	0	0	0	0
Removals from district into other areas.	0	0	0	0
Removed from register as non-tubercular.	0	0	0	0
Removed from register - cured.	1	2	0	0
Deaths during 1968.	0	0	1	0
Total on register at the end of 1968.	4	3	0	0

Average yearly incidence.	New Cases.		Deaths.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary
1940 - 1949.	5.4	2.2	2.6	0.9
1950 - 1959.	4.1	0.6	1.3	0.1
1960 - 1968.	1.2	0.2	0.7	0.2

Average number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register Pulmonary & Non-Pulmonary.	
1946 - 1955	31.6
1956 - 1965	26.4

Total number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register Pulmonary & Non-Pulmonary.	
1966	14.
1967	11.
1968	7.

Immunisation.

The following figures were supplied by the County Medical Officer. As some of the immunisations were carried out at the schools the numbers do not strictly refer to the Borough as some children cross District boundaries to attend schools in the Borough.

P = Primary dose. R = Reinforcing dose.

POLIOMYELITIS.				DIPHTHERIA.		TETANUS.		WHOOPING COUGH.		SMALLPOX.		MEASLES.
ORAL.		SALK.										
P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	R.	
92	108	0	0	84	139	92	147	80	81	66	3	149

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT. 1948. Section 47.

This section of the Act provides for removal from their own home of persons who are either ill or incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, are not able to care for themselves and are not receiving from others proper care and attention.

Several old persons were referred but statutory action was not found to be necessary.

HOUSING.

Throughout the year much time was devoted to the subject of housing, and a great deal of progress was made in raising standards by removing some of the worst dwellings and improving many others. The following action was taken.

Clearance Areas.

1. Barrack Street.

In December, 1967 the Council declared an area of Barrack Street to be a Clearance Area and made a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of 21 houses and 5 business premises. The Council's intention was to clear the properties and provide a car park. The Order was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for confirmation and the public local inquiry into the Order was held in Bridport on 24th. July, 1968. The Minister agreed that all the properties in the Clearance Area were properly represented as unfit houses, but considered that efforts should be made to improve and preserve the properties fronting Barrack Street. He agreed with the Inspector who conducted the inquiry that the Council appeared to be justified in seeking to provide a car park, but he did not agree that Barrack Street was the best place for it, and the Order was not confirmed.

In November 1968 individual action under Part II of the Housing Act, 1957 was begun in respect of the 17 unfit houses in the Area, and the owners of the fit houses which lacked one or more of the standard amenities were asked to improve their dwellings.

2. Manchester Place.

In December 1967 the Minister of Housing and Local Government held a public local inquiry into a Compulsory Purchase Order made in respect of 6 houses in this Clearance Area. The Order was confirmed without modification by the Minister on 19th. January, 1968. The Council was directed to make a Well Maintained Payment in respect of the house at 9/10 Manchester Palce. One of the owner/occupiers was re-housed by the Council in June, and in December a quotation was accepted for the demolition and clearance of the houses. Demolition work had not started by the end of the year.

Since the date of making the Order, the tenancy of one of the houses has changed twice and the second family, consisting of three persons, is still in occupation. The Council have no statutory powers to stop property owners re-letting houses which are subject to Clearance Area and Compulsory Purchase Order action, and if, as has happened in this case, a house is vacated and then re-occupied it would seem that the Council must either obtain possession of the house through the Court or again offer accommodation to the occupier.

3. St. Mary's Place.

In December 1967 the Council declared a group of 21 houses in St. Mary's Place and South Street to be a Clearance Area, and in June 1968 a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of these properties and 8 adjoining fit houses was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for confirmation. A public local inquiry into the Order was held in November, and the Order was subsequently confirmed without modification by the Minister. The Council was directed to make Well Maintained Payments in respect of 8 of the houses.

4. Rope Walks.

In January 1968 a report was submitted by the Senior Public Health Inspector to the Council, dealing with the condition of 38 dwelling houses in an area of the town bounded by Rope Walks, St. Michaels Lane and Drill Hall Passage. Individual action under Part II of the Housing Act, 1957 had been in progress for some time, and the Council had purchased 26 of the houses, which were all in the unfit category. The Council decided to demolish the houses which they owned, with the exception of 16 and 18 Rope Walks which formed part of a terrace of houses. They also agreed to demolish any other properties in the area which they acquired in the future. Four of the 26 houses are still occupied and as soon as these tenants have been re-housed demolition work will commence. The future of the other 12 houses which are in private ownership will be determined once the future planning policy is known.

Closing Orders - Underground Rooms.

Victoria Grove No. 57
Total..... 1 (2 in 1967)

Demolished.

9 dwelling houses were demolished in pursuance of Slum Clearance, compared with 21 in 1967 :-

Folly Mill Lane Nos. 6a, 6b, 10, 12 (These houses were demolished by the Council in default).

Total.....4

The 5 dwellings at 3, 9, 11, 13 and 15 Rope Walks, which formed the Borough of Bridport (Rope Walks) Clearance Area 1961, were demolished and the site cleared.

Total.... 5

Total families rehoused in pursuance of Slum Clearance = 19, comprising 34 persons

Undertakings accepted not to use for human habitation until made fit.

North Allington No. 37c
Victoria Grove No. 8
West Street No. 70b
Total..... 3 (5 in 1967)

Demolition Orders Revoked - Houses made fit.

Pink Mead Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4
Portland Place No. 1
Total..... 5 (2 in 1967)

Formal Undertakings Cancelled - Houses made fit.

West Street No. 32a
Total..... 1

Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

No. of inspections and / or visits for Housing Act purposes.....	722.
No. of visits re/overcrowding.....	0
No. of visits re/improvements.....	202
No. of visits re/Council House survey.....	0
No. of unfit dwellings made fit after informal action.....	1
No. of unfit dwellings made fit after formal notice.....	6

Housing for the Elderly.

The elderly person living in an unsuitable and often unfit house, in which he is unable to manage, may have to be placed in institutional care for social rather than medical reasons. The number of people living past retirement age is still increasing. The County as the Local Health and Welfare Authority makes a contribution towards expenses of warden services where a warden is available to old persons residences.

In the Borough accommodation for the elderly can best be described in three groups :-

1. Small housing units i.e. flats or bungalows, in which elderly people live entirely independently. Probably most such accommodation available for rent is provided by the Borough Council who own 72 small flats and bungalows all of which are let to elderly residents.

2. Flats and flatlets in which people live independently but where there is a bell to alert a warden in emergencies. The extent of warden services and communal facilities provided varies. Some of these flats are Council dwellings built as part of the Council's housing programme, others are managed by members of the National Association of Almshouses.

Council dwellings + warden (Cooper Court)	14	single or double.
Municipal Charities.	14	single.
Mabel Gale Homes.	10	single.
Daniel Taylor Almshouses.	6	single and 2 double.

3. (a) Homes providing full board and attendance and managed and run by either a housing association or privately, and

   (b) Hospital wards for geriatric patients in North Allington Hospital and Port Bredy Hospital.

Certificates of Disrepair.

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act. 1957.

Housing (Underground Rooms) Act, 1959 Regulations.

On 10th. January, 1968, the Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed the Borough of Bridport Underground Room Regulations. These Regulations were made to secure the proper ventilation and lighting of rooms to which sub-section 2 of section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957 applies and the protection thereof against dampness, effluvia and exhalation.

Improvements to Dwellinghouses.

(a) Private Dwellings.

(1) Standard Grants. (Note: figures in brackets refer to 1967)

	Owner/Occupier.		Tenanted.		Total.	
Applications received.	26	(14)	19	(8)	45	(22)
Applications b/f from 1966.	3	(0)	1	(0)	4	(0)
Applications approved.	23	(11)	20	(5)	43	(16)
Applications refused.	2	(0)	0	(2)	2	(2)
No. of dwellings improved.	20	(14)	13	(9)	33	(23)
No. of dwellings where grant has been paid.	17	(10)	13	(9)	30	(19)

Total amount paid in standard grants = £4,267 (£2,612)
Average amount paid per house = £142 4/8 (£137 9/5)

No. of amenities provided within the 33 dwellings improved during the year :-

	Owner/Occupier.	Tenanted.	Total.	
(a) Fixed bath in a bathroom.	15	13	28	(19)
(b) Wash hand basin.	15	13	28	(21)
(c) Hot water supply.	19	13	32	(22)
(d) W.C. (internal)	14	13	27	(21)
(e) Food store.	20	13	33	(21)
(f) Piped water supply (internal)	3	2	5	(0)

(2) Discretionary Grants.

	Owner/Occupier.		Tenanted.		Total.	
Applications received.	3	(0)	1	(0)	4	(0)
Applications approved.	3	(1)	1	(0)	4	(1)
Applications refused.	0	(0)	0	(1)	0	(1)
No. of dwellings improved.	1	(1)	0	(0)	1	(1)

Total amount paid in discretionary grants = £400. (£400)
Average amount paid per house. = £400. (£400)

It is most satisfying to note the very large increase in the number of applications received for Improvement Grants, and the corresponding increase in the number of houses provided with the modern essential amenities. It is hoped that the trend will continue and that more property owners will avail themselves of grants.

Improvements to dwellinghouses continued.

The improvement of houses and the willing co-operation of owners and tenants is so essential in Bridport, if the demolition of sub-standard properties is to be avoided in the future.

It is interesting to note that at no time has the "reduced standard" of amenities, as defined in section 43 (5) of the Housing Act, 1964, been utilised.

Provision of Separate Water Service Pipe.

In one instance the Council gave a grant to a property owner for providing a pre-1945 dwellinghouse with a separate water service pipe. This was done in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Act, 1964, section 96.

(b) Council Dwellings.

During 1967 the public health department in conjunction with the Town Clerk's department, carried out a survey of all Council owned dwellings to ascertain what amenities were lacking and the extent of occupation of each dwelling. The purpose of the survey was to provide the necessary up-to-date information to the Council in order that a phased scheme of house improvement could be undertaken.

Throughout 1968 the work of improving these dwellings has continued, and the following table gives details of the number of amenities still lacking. It can be seen from the table that, out of 141 Estate houses lacking amenities in 1967 only 25 now have to be improved, and similarly, out of 49 Corporate properties lacking amenities in 1967 there are now 37 left to improve.

(The figures in brackets show the position at the end of 1967).

	1968.	1967.
Number of pre- 1945 Council Estate houses.....	203	(203)
" " " " " " " lacking one or more standard amenity.....	25	(141)
" " " " " " " lacking wash hand basin...	16	(120)
" " " " " " " lacking bath in bathroom..	3	(24)
" " " " " " " lacking hot water at sink.	22	(118)
" " " " " " " lacking hot water at bath.	21	(109)
" " " " " " " lacking hot water at wash hand basin.....	23	(138)
" " " " " " " lacking ventilated food store.	0	(6)
" " " " " " " lacking internal W.C.....	0	(12)
Number of pre-1945 Corporate houses.....	72	(72)
" " " " " " lacking one or more standard amenity.....	37	(49)
" " " " " " lacking sink and water supply.	2	(2)
" " " " " " lacking wash hand basin.....	25	(31)
" " " " " " lacking bath in bathroom....	23	(29)
" " " " " " lacking hot water at sink...	28	(39)
" " " " " " lacking hot water at bath...	23	(25)
" " " " " " lacking hot water at wash hand basin.....	25	(31)
" " " " " " lacking ventilated food store.	24	(26)
" " " " " " lacking internal W.C.....	18	(23)

House Improvement Grant Exhibition.

An exhibition was jointly organised with the Bridport R.D.C. to draw the public's attention to the availability of house improvement grants, and was held for six days in October in the Congregational Church Hall, Bridport. Many trade displays showed bathroom fittings, heaters, damp-proofing materials and other items relevant to house improvement and repair. The Local Authorities provided a stand where any problems or items relating to the grants themselves could be discussed. In conjunction with the exhibition, a 20 minute Ministry of Housing and Local Government film on house improvement was shown at the local cinemas in Bridport and Lyme Regis.

A total of 706 persons visited the exhibition. 1,086 persons saw the film at Bridport and a further 1,200 persons saw the film at Lyme Regis.

It is considered that the exhibition, together with the wide publicity given in various forms, will be of the utmost value in the task of improving the standards of housing in the town.

Improvement Areas.

Although no Improvement Areas have been declared under the Housing Act, 1964, the Public Health Inspectors have nevertheless been actively engaged on the work of obtaining information in respect of properties in two possible areas.

In June and December, the Senior Public Health Inspector submitted comprehensive reports to the Council on the South Street/South Mill Lane area (87 dwellinghouses) and the North Allington/Portland Place area (40 dwellinghouses). The Council agreed in priciple that the properties in the two areas should form Improvement Areas, but that formal declarations should be withheld pending the publication of the new Housing Act. In the meantime, all owners of property in the areas have been advised of the Council's intentions and several owners have completed or are in the process of providing their dwellings with modern amenities. The Health Department is ready to deal with the defined areas as soon as the new Act comes into force.

Improvement of Dwellings Outside Improvement Areas.

A tenant occupying a dwelling which is not within an Improvement Area and which lacks one or more of the standard amenities, can make representations in writing to the Council with a view to the Council exercising their powers under the Housing Act, 1964. Owners of dwellings which are tenanted can be compelled to carry out works of improvement, and it would appear that the average tenant knows little or nothing about the powers which they and the Local Authority have in this matter.

Representations were received from only two tenants, and in one case after the service of the Preliminary Notice the Council accepted an Undertaking from the owners and the five standard amenities were installed. In the other case, the Council decided not to serve a Preliminary Notice.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food Premises by type.

There are 238 food premises in the district as follows :-

Food Premises.	Number.	Visits.
Retail Bakers	12	9
Bakehouses	7	13
Butchers	9	9
Catering Premises	23	15
Fishmongers	3	1
Greengrocers	6	14
Grocers	29	22
Ice Cream	66	41
Fried Fish Shops	3	2
Confectioners	12	6
Dairies and Milk Suppliers	4	4
Public Houses	34	12
Poulterers	2	2
Jam Factory	1	0
Mobile Grocers	2	0
School Canteens	2	1
Works Canteens	6	0
Kiosks	10	6
Brewery	1	1
Registered Clubs	3	1
Street Markets	1	12
Hospital Kitchens	2	0
Total	238	171

Food Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

Manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream..... 67.
Preparation or manufacture of Sausages or Potted, Pressed or Pickled food..... 8.
Cooked Fish..... 4.

Ice Cream.

No. of premises on the register for the :-
(a) Manufacture of ice cream..... 1.
(b) Storage and sale of ice cream..... 67.

13 ice cream samples were purchased during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. The results of the samples were :- 10 in Grade I and 3 in Grade II.

Food Hygiene.

"Eating Out" in restaurant canteen and school has steadily grown over the years and is unlikely to diminish. As a result, the food and catering trades have developed enormously and the task of supplying foods of many descriptions either cooked, partially cooked or raw from innumerable sources, is now a major industry employing many thousands each day. The hygienic control of food production, transit and sale is of vital importance, and the careless or "couldn't care less" food handler is a menace.

The public health service of a Local Authority plays an important part in safeguarding the nature, substance and quality of food, and public health inspectors are always watchful for unhygienic practices.

In September, a circular was received from the Ministry of Health in connection with dogs in food shops, restaurants and other food premises. The Minister considered that a legal ban on dogs in such premises was not necessary, since food traders are, under the Food Hygiene Regulations, already obliged to take all steps to avoid contamination of food from any source. The Council agreed to obtain and distribute to approximately 200 food traders, notices requesting customers not to take dogs into the food premises.

Food Supply - 7 complaints.

The following is a synopsis of food complaints referred to the public health department during the year. It will be seen that some of these are serious and others less important, and further, how essential the co-operation of the general public is in preventing these incidents.

Complaint.	Action Taken.
1. Mouldy Apple Turnover.	This was made at a local bakery. Complaint received the day following purchase. Letter of warning sent to bakery.
2. Canned Fruit Salad.	After purchase at a local shop, this was opened and found to be Pineapple, not Fruit Salad. Another can was purchased and opened in the shop by the customer. This also proved to be Pineapple, and it was evident that the consignment had been wrongly labelled. Matter passed to County Weights and Measures Department.
3. Ox Tongue.	It was alleged that this caused sickness. Sample of Ox Tongue taken from retailer and submitted for chemical analysis. Negative result obtained. No further action.
4. Piece of glass in school milk.	This was found by a pupil in a $\frac{1}{3}$ pint milk bottle. Reported facts to Council. Letter of warning sent to milk distributor.

Food Supply continued.

5. Fried Plaice. This was purchased at a local shop and it had a pronounced obnoxious smell. This may have been due to certain foods eaten by the fish. The shop was visited within 20 minutes of receiving the complaint, and all fish in stock was fresh. No further action.

6. Ham Sandwich. This was pre-packed and was alleged to have been stale when purchased locally. The sandwich was not produced by the complainant, but the shop was visited to check method of preparation and stock rotation.

7. Cooked Turkey. Alleged to be inedible. No evidence of decomposition. No action.

Condemnation of Food.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered voluntarily by local traders and were disposed of as being unfit for human consumption. Certificates of seizure were issued in each case.

	Cwts.	lbs.	ozs.
Meat at retail shops.		15	0
Canned Tomatoes.		55	4
Marmalade.		18	0
Canned Meat.		34	14
	1	11	2

Canned Meat.

Country of Origin.	Weight Condemned.
Argentine.	12 lbs.
Holland.	10 lbs. 14 ozs.
Hungary.	4 lbs.
Yugoslavia.	8 lbs.
Total.	34 lbs. 14 ozs.

Number of visits..... 8.

Meat Inspection.

There is no slaughterhouse in the Borough, but during the year the Senior Public Health Inspector assisted the Bridport Rural District Council and carried out meat inspection at the slaughterhouse on two occasions.

Milk Supply.

Since 1961, the responsibility for the issue of licences for the use of special designation in connection with milk was transferred from the Council to the Dorset County Council under the Milk (Special Designation Regulations) 1960. The County Council however have continued to keep this Council informed regarding the number of samples taken and the analyses of these. During the year 175 samples were taken and 169 passed the prescribed test. 14 dealers' licences to sell pre-packed milk and 1 pastouriser's licence were issued.

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Since the last report, 159 visits of inspection were made to premises coming within the scope of the Act. 95% of all registered premises in this Borough have now received at least one general inspection, and many have had follow-up visits. The outstanding 5% are either to close down in the future, or are of a seasonal nature, and thelatter will be inspected in 1969.

The marked decrease in the number of premises registered at the end of 1968 compared with previous years is due to the closure of premises, small premises no longer employing staff, or to the passing over of registrations (usually offices) to the Factories Inspector where, to save duplication of inspection, they can check on the provisions of the Act at the same time as they check the provisions of the Factories Act, 1961 in those premises. This also accounts for the drop in the number of persons employed.

Many improvements have been made to registered premises following inspection, and guidance has been given in many instances, particularly when premises have changed ownership or when plans have been lodged under Building Regulations.

Only one accident was notified and this was investigated. The handle of a toilet cistern snapped off when pressure was applied, causing a girl to fall forward onto the broken edge severely cutting her hand.

The following tables show the prescribed particulars to be included in the annual report under Section 60 of the Act. :-

Note : the figures in brackets relate to the year 1967.

1.	No. of premises registered at the end of :-		No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection.	
	1968	1967	1968	1967
Offices.....	37	(56)	32	(15)
Retail Shops.....	83	(97)	79	(13)
Wholesale Shops/Warehouses...	2	(5)	2	(0)
Catering Establishments.....	11	(14)	7	(3)
Fuel Storage Depots.....	1	(2)	1	(0)
Total.....	134	(174)	121	(31)

2. No. of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises..... 159 (61)

3. Analysis of persons employed in Registered Premises.

Class of work place.	No. of persons. 1968.	1967.
Offices.....	225	(374)
Retail shops.....	470	(464)
Wholesale departments.....	12	(52)
Catering premises.....	82	(81)
Canteens.....	0	(0)
Fuel storage depots.....	2	(16)
Total.	791	(987)
Total males.	318	(445)
Total females.	473	(542)

WATER SUPPLIES.

Re-Grouping of Water Undertakings.

After a further objection and further proceedings before a select Committee of the House of Commons, the Dorset Water Order has now been made and becomes operative on the 1st. April, 1969.

Beaminster Rural District, Bridport Rural District and Bridport Borough Councils each has one representative on the new board.

West Dorset Water Board.

The Water Board has virtually completed the first seven phases of its Regional Scheme. During 1968 the mains from R7 (North Warren Hill reservoir) connecting Melplash to Mangerton and West Milton, were completed and brought into use and the other extension into the Waytown area should be in use by the spring of 1969. Reservoir No. 5 near Marshwood Church is about 60% complete and work is in hand laying the main from here through the Marshwood Vale. The new main from Whitchurch Canonicorum to Wootton Fitzpaine will also be complete and in use by the spring of 1969.

The West Dorset Water Board will cease to exist on March 31st. 1969 following its incorporation in the new Dorset Water Board, and it is not possible to say, therefore, what plans the new board will have for completing the West Board's original schemes. The works involved are those covered by the original phases 8 and 9 in the scheme detailed below.

West Dorset Water Board Phasing of Regional Scheme.

Phase.		Proposed and completed date.
2.	Main from Reservoir No. 16 to Stoke Abbott. Construction of Reservoir No.12 Bunkers Hill. Main from Reservoir No. 12 to Uploders. Construction of Reservoir No. 19 South Perrott. Main to Reservoir No. 19 and to Chedington, Mosterton and South Perrott. Main from Bradpole to Loders. Main from Reservoir No. 6 to Broadoak. Main from Bridport to Symondsbury. Main from Shipton Gorge to Burton Bradstock. Main from Hooke pumping station to Reservoir No. 25 and Hooke village. Construction of Reservoir No. 25. Provision of pumping equipment at Hooke pumping station.	1962 to 1964

West Dorset Water Board Phasing of Regional Scheme continued.

Phase.		Proposed and completed date.
3.	Trunk main from Litton Cheney to R.6 and site works at Litton Cheney.	Dec. 1963 - Dec. 1965
4.	Development of Litton Cheney source with pumps and treatment.	Mar. 1964 - Dec. 1964
5.	Mains from R.16 to R.3 (Hardown Hill) Construction of R.3. Mains from R.3 to Whitchurch Canonicorum. Booster No. 3 at Whitchurch Canonicorum. Construction of R.4 and R.8 (Morcombelake) Mains to Whitchurch Canonicorum, Morcombelake and Ryall. Mains from R.3 to Chideock and Seatown. Mains from Whitchurch Canonicorum to Charmouth and Catherston Lewston. Construction of R.2 (Charmouth).	Mar. 1964 to Mar. 1966
6.	Mains from Broadwindsor to :- Burstock, Seaborough, Drimpton, Birdsmoor Gate, Marshwood, Thorncombe and Holditch. Construction of R.13 (Thorncombe) Construction of R.15 (north of Burstock). Mains to Walditch.	Mar. 1965 to Mar. 1968
7.	Mains from Broadoak to Bettiscombe and Pilsdon. Construction of R.5 Bettiscombe. Mains from R.7 via Melplash to Mangerton and West Milton. (Mains from R.25 to R.26 and Powerstock. Construction of R.26 Powerstock. Temporarily deferred).	Mar. 1967 to Mar. 1969
8.	Mains from R.18 to Chelborough and Evershot. Mains from R.18 to Rampisham and Wraxall. Mains from R.18 to Melbury. Construction of R.22 (Rampisham). Construction of R.23 (Evershot) and R.24 (East Chelborough).	Mar. 1969 to Mar. 1970
9.	Mains from Whitchurch Canonicorum to High Level District of Charmouth. Construction of R.1 (Charmouth). Mains and Boosters for Monkton Wylde and Fishponds. Mains from Broadoak to Moorbath. Mains from Sansons Cross to Whitchurch Canonicorum.	Mar. 1970 to Mar. 1971

The following is a copy report from the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London, of the sources used by the West Dorset Water Board.

Chemical Results in Parts per Million.

	Hooke Waste Weir. 1/12/66.	Beaminster Langdon Supply. 20/6/68.	Corscombe Source. 19/1/65.	Litton Cheney Heading. 18/5/68.
Appearance.	Bright with a few particles.	Bright with a few particles.	Bright with a few particles.	Bright with a few particles.
Colour.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
pH.	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.5
Electric Conductivity.	460	450	440	410
Chlorine present as Chloride.	15	15	13	20
Hardness: total.	260	265	260	210
Carbonate.	240	230	230	185
Non-Carbonate.	20	35	30	25
Nitrate Nitrogen.	3.4	3.4	1.9	2.7
Ammoniacal Nitrogen.	0.01	0.05	0.00	0.00
Albuminoid Nitrogen.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Iron.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.
Zinc.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.
Copper.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.
Lead.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.
Turbidity.	less than 3.	less then 3.	less than 3.	less than 3.
Odour.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Free Carbon Dioxide.	20	22	20	12
Dissolved Solids Dried at 180 C.	320	330	300	275
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate.	240	230	230	185
Nitrite Nitrogen.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.	less than 0.01
Oxygen Absorbed.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Residual Chlorine.	Absent.	Absent.	....	Absent.
Fluoride.	.....	less than 0.1	....	.....

From the aspect of the chemical analyses these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Water Supplies continued.

31 properties within the Borough were thought not to have a mains supply of water, and all these properties were visited to determine what water supply, if any, they had.

Of the 31 properties, 20 were in fact on the mains, 4 still retained a well supply, and the remaining 7 had no supply at all, nor did they have need of one. Bacteriological water samples were taken from 3 of the wells, only one of which was satisfactory. The properties served by the other two wells were both factories, and neither used water for dietetic purposes. One of the factories is to make arrangements to be connected to the mains. The other asked for a second sample, and this is to be done as soon as arrangements have been made to sample the fourth well.

Water Samples.

48 samples of mainswater, which is chlorinated, were taken for bacteriological examination and sent to the Public Health Laboratory. All were satisfactory.

Fluoridation of Water Undertakings.

There has been no change in the County Council's former decision not to support the addition of fluoride to the water supply in this area.

I am grateful to Mr. R. Chapman, Engineer and Manager to the West Dorset Water Board, for his co-operation and advice on this section of the report.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Joint Sewerage Scheme.

During the year work continued on the various parts of this scheme. The pressure pipeline from Beaminster to West Bay Road, Bridport was completed and satisfactorily tested.

In the early Summer of 1968 the submarine outfall pipe was pulled into its sea bed position but unfortunately the shoreward end of the pipe did not become placed in the sea bed with sufficient coverage. The Joint Sewerage Committee, acting on the advice of their Consulting Engineers, called for the Contractor's proposals to lower the pipe into its agreed position, or otherwise to protect it in the surf zone. At the end of the year the Contractors were engaged in a variety of investigations to establish what proposals they might wish to submit to overcome the problem.

The headworks pumping station at West Bay was completed during 1968 and is ready, subject to some final testing when the outfall pipe is completed.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The atmospheric recording apparatus at The Grove continued in operation throughout the year, and the results obtained from it gave an indication of the atmospheric pollution within the Borough. The apparatus situated by the West Street traffic lights determined the degree of pollution derived from vehicles waiting by the lights. Both sets of results were compared. The monthly average of pollution for 1968 measured in microgrammes per cubic metre of smoke and sulphur dioxide was as follows :-

	Smoke.	Sulphur Dioxide.
Eggardon Hill	6.28	26.95
Grove.	11.54	53.75
West Street.	29.22	90.16

Temperatures and rainfall were also recorded. The highest temperature of 29°C. was recorded in July, and the lowest of -1°C. in both April and November. A total of 38" of rain fell during the year, the driest month being March and the wettest September.

At the end of 1968 the Council felt that the Grove station having been in operation nearly four years, in which time the results had varied only a small amount, had served its useful purpose, and asked the Ministry of Technology for their observations. The Ministry stated that they would have sufficient data by 31st. March, 1969. After this date the Council will discontinue the station's operation.

SHOPS ACTS. 1950 - 1965.

24 visits were made to shops in connection with Closing Hours, and in several instances informal notices were served. No persons were prosecuted.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT.
Petroleum (Regulation) Acts. 1928 - 1936.

The legislation and conditions applicable to the storage of petroleum spirit and licences are enforced by the Senior Public Health Inspector.

No. of applications received for the renewal of Petroleum Licences..... 26.
* No. of licences granted for a period of 12 months..... 26.
No. of informal notices served..... 15.
No. of informal notices complied with..... 12.
No. of inspections..... 68.

* 24 of these licences are in respect of underground tank installations, where a maximum of 63,700 gallons of petroleum spirit is stored. 2 are licensed can stores where a maximum of 200 gallons of petroleum spirit is kept.

Income from licences..... £22. 15. 0.

Petroleum Spirit continued.

The informal notices, which were served, required the following works to be carried out :-

Labelling of petrol pump master switch	5.
Testing of underground storage tanks	10.
Electrical certification	4.
Display of licensing conditions	3.
Display of "No Smoking" notices	1.
Renewal of broken manhole cover	1.
Rendering safe disused storage tank	1.
Heightening of existing tank vent pipe	1.

In the course of the year, notification was received from the occupier of business premises that he could detect the smell of petroleum vapour in his shop. An underground petrol storage tank vent pipe, in an adjoining garage, was heightened and this remedied the problem.

SWIMMING FACILITIES AND POLLUTION OF RIVERS.

There is no public swimming bath at present, but bathing takes place during the summer months in the sea and in the river basin at West Bay. A number of water samples have been taken from this basin and were unsatisfactory, not coming up to the standard acceptable in a swimming bath. It is hoped that pollution of the basin will be decreased when the long sea outfall comes into operation.

Paddling Pool.

The paddling pool which was opened in 1967 was in use between 3rd June and 30th. September. During this period, the pool was regularly emptied and cleaned manually and the water was chlorinated.

Water samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination and these proved to be satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL AND ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

It became apparent during the year that much more time would require to be devoted to the practical side of rodent control, and the Council agreed to employ the Rodent Operator during the five mornings in lieu of four afternoons per week, i.e. 25 hours in lieu of 10 hours per week. This arrangement took effect from 4th. November, and should enable infestations to be discovered more quickly. This will automatically result in quicker treatments and thus retard the replacement rate of rats and mice.

It is the duty of the Local Authority to take all steps to ensure that, so far as is practicable, the district is kept free from rats and mice, but it is also the duty of any occupier of land, including buildings, to notify the Local Authority if rats or mice are present. It is to be hoped that the general public will continue to play their part.

Rodent Control and Eradication of Vermin continued.

The Council gives a free control service to the occupiers of dwellings, but a charge of 10/-d. per hour is made to the occupiers of business premises. This charge includes the cost of labour and materials. Three owners of five business premises have an arrangement whereby they each pay a fixed annual sum to the Council for rodent control services. The Operator visits each of the premises at least once per month, and on any other occasion when rodent infestation is suspected.

The public sewers in the Borough were treated during April/May and November and in course of the latter treatment 54% of the known manholes in the system were treated. A detailed plan showing the sewer layout and manhole positions was prepared by the Health Department during 1968 and this will be of great value in the future to establish the extent of any rat infestation.

On five occasions, rat holes appeared in gardens and / or open land and on testing these holes, they were found to communicate directly with a public sewer or drain. In each case the ground was opened and the broken sewer or drain pipes were renewed. Much rat proofing work was carried out in private property following rodent treatment.

Periodic visits were also made to the refuse tip, and Deratisation Certificates were examined on board vessels entering the harbour at West Bay.

No. of premises inspected following notifications..... 171.
(136 of these were infested by rats and 35 were infested by mice)

No. of premises inspected (other than by notifications)..... 59.
(14 of these were infested by rats and 8 were infested by mice)

No. of dwellings treated..... 118.
No. of food premises treated..... 13.
No. of other premises treated..... 54.
Total no. of visits by Rodent Operator..... 437.
Total no. of visits by Public Health Inspectors..... 28.
No. of disinfestations carried out :- (wasps, flies)..... 5.

Pigeon Nuisance.

Several complaints were received about pigeons fouling properties, and pavements in the main throughfares. A Ministry of Agriculture designed pigeon trap was made, and fitted to the roof of the Town Hall. At the end of the year the trap was in operation and the first pigeons had been caught and passed to the R.S.P.C.A.. Only a few minutes is required each day to bait and empty the trap, and since it began operating a marked decline has been noticed in the number of pigeons in the town. The trap is to remain in operation for 1969.

Several owners of business premises have co-operated and have had exposed ledges, parapet walls and roofs treated, to repel pigeons. The valuable assistance and co-operation given by the R.S.P.C.A. is gratefully acknowledged.

POISONOUS PLANT.

The juice of the Thorn Apple plant may be fatal if it enters the bloodstream. A number of these plants were found to be growing on a vacant site in the town, but the Council took steps to have them dug up and burnt. No further occurrence of the plant has been reported to the Council.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Three men are employed full-time and four men part-time in refuse collection. One refuse collection lorry is used full-time and one part-time. The refuse is tipped on a site at Bothenhampton where one man is engaged full-time and a tractor driver part-time. The tip is in joint use with the Bridport Rural District Council.

In the Borough Area collections are made on weekdays from central business premises. Various hotels in the harbour area receive two collections a week and domestic premises one collection a week. Approximately 1270 loads of refuse were collected from approximately 3360 dustbins. All tins are tipped on the refuse site which is in the Bridport Rural District.

Street cleaning was carried out by three full-time and 1 part-time sweeper with street orderly carts and a total of six miles was swept daily, one mile three times weekly, two miles twice weekly and four and a half miles once weekly.

CAMPING SITES.

Apart from a few sites with a single caravan on each, the main site is at West Bay and owned by the Council who employ a full-time supervisor and part-time clerical assistant, together with two full-time workmen. Four workmen and a part-time clerical assistant are employed during the camping season which lasts from 1st. April to 30th. September. Water is supplied to various standpipes near which are concrete tanks for the reception of foul water, which are emptied regularly by a tank emptier. A daily collection of refuse from covered metal receptacles scattered through the campfield is made during August and three times a week for the rest of the season. No caravans are allowed to remain on the site after 30th. September. The hall erected by the Council on the site is much appreciated by the campers, as are also the three permanent shops.

I am grateful to Mr. F.M. Watts, Borough Engineer and Surveyor for his help with sections of the report i.e. housing, public cleansing and camping sites.

SCHOOLS.

These are regularly inspected. All have water closets, piped water and washing facilities. All are supplied daily with pasteurised milk.

11 samples of water were taken from the swimming pool in one school in the area by the County Council staff, 9 were satisfactory and 2 were unsatisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT. 1951.

Two premises are licensed as pet shops within the Borough.

No. of visits....., 3.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT. 1960.

Three visits were made to premises in course of dealing with a noise complaint. The source of the noise was found to be shop refrigeration equipment, but the nuisance was abated following work of maintenance.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT. 1964.

Two persons are licensed as Scrap Metal Dealers in terms of the Act.

FACTORIES ACT. 1961.

FACTORIES ON THE COUNCIL'S REGISTER AND DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities,	0	0	0	0
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities.	44	70	0	0
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding outworkers' premises)	0	0	0	0
Total.	44	70	0	0

Factories Act. 1961 continued.

FACTORIES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.					
Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Inspector.	Referred By H.M. Inspector.	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness.	0	2	0	2	0
Overcrowding.	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation.	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences.					
(a) Insufficient.	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	20	4	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes.	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to outworkers.	0	0	0	0	0
Total.	20	6	0	2	0

OUTWORK						
Nature of work.	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 133 (1) (c).	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Nets other than wire nets.	126	0	0	0	0	0
Total.	126	0	0	0	0	0

SUMMARY OF VISITS MADE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962
Food Premises.....	171	125	140	384	518	403	325
Atmospheric Pollution.....	33	100	154	22	8	8	19
Factories.....	70	42	83	78	12	24	34
Nuisances.....	90	60	95	151	101	89	157
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act.	159	61	47	89	5	0	0
Petroleum.....	64	123	60	153	97	154	166
Shops Act.....	24	35	20	152	3	29	22
Drainage.....	108	36	160	213	197	289	358
Meat Inspection.....	2	3	3	35	112	0	0
Rodent Control.....	88	42	82	212	113	90	187
Visits under the Housing Acts.....	722	603	401	417	208	128	107
Housing inspections under the Public Health Acts.....	16	32	53	105	98	113	25
Visits re improvement grants.....	202						
Others.....	67						
Totals.....	1816	1262	1298	2011	1475	1327	1400

The above figures give an analysis of the major part of the Public Health Inspectors' outside work, but other visits and duties have covered infectious disease investigation, port health work, insect infestation control and noise abatement. Much time during the year has had to be devoted to office administration work.

ASSISTANCE TO BEAMINSTER R.D.C.

During the absence of the Rural District Council's sole Public Health Inspector due to illness, the Borough's Public Health Inspectors rendered assistance to the Beaminster Local Authority.

BRIDPORT RIPARIAN LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Section 1 - Staff *

TABLE A.

Name of Officer.	Appointment.	Date of Appointment.	Qualifications and other appointments held.
John G. Meadows.	Medical Officer of Health.	1/7/64	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.. M.O.H. Boroughs of Bridport and Lyme Regis and Rural Districts of Bridport & Beaminster. Senior Assistant County M.O. Dorset County Council.
	Resigned	31/8 /68	
E. Jackson.	ditto	1/11/68	ditto
James C. Angus.	Senior Public Health Inspector.	8/8/66	M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector's Certificate. Inspector of Meat and other Foods Certificate.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health.

Office - Health Centre, North Allington, Bridport. Bridport 2385/6

Home - Church View, Waytown Road, Netherbury. Netherbury 316.

Section II - Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number.	Tonnage.	Number inspected. By the M.O.H.	Number inspected. By the P.H.I.	Number of ships reported as having had during the voyage infectious diseases on board.
Foreign Ports	16	2610.6	0	12	0
Coastwise.	0	0	0	0	0
Totals.	16	2610.6	0	12	0

Section III - Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

Passenger Traffic - Nil.

Cargo Traffic - 12 ships imported timber
4 ships arrived empty but exported gravel.

Principal Ports from which ships arrive are in Sweden, Finland and Belgium.

Section 1V - Inland Barge Traffic - Nil.

Section V. - Water Supply * - No Change

Section V1 - Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1966 * No Change

Section V11- Smallpox.

(1) Name of Isolation Hospital to which Smallpox cases are sent from this district.

Weyhill Hospital, Andover. (Telephone No. Weyhill 214)

(2) Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital.

Dorset County Ambulance Service.

(3) Names of Smallpox Consultants available.

Dr. E.J. Gordon Wallace, Weymouth, Dr. A.F. Turner and Dr. C. Hollins, Dorchester.

(4) Facilities of Laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox.

Suspected material is sent to - Virus Reference Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale, London N.W. 9. Tel. Colindale 7041, or the Bristol Public Health Laboratory. Tel. Bristol 38257.

Section V111 - Venereal Disease.

Patients can be seen at the V.D. Clinic, Dorset County Hospital, Males and Females, Thursdays 11 a.m., also at Portwey Hospital, Males and Females, Thursdays 5 p.m., by appointment. In-patient accommodation is provided for at the Westhaven Hospital, Radipole Lane, Weymouth. The Medical Officer of Health gives the appropriate information to persons concerned regarding treatment facilities.

Section 1X - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships. TABLE D.

Category.	Diseases.	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned.
		Passengers.	Crew.	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Section X - Observation on the occurrance of malaria in ships - Nil.

Section X1 - Measurers taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague - Nil.

Section X11 Measurers against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

(1) Routine inspections in ships from foreign ports is made.

(2) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents are made with the County Laboratory, Dorchester. No rats were sent during the year.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category.	Number.
Black rats.....	Nil.
Brown rats.....	Nil.
Species not known.....	Nil.
Sent for examination.....	Nil.
Infected with plague.....	Nil.

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

No of Deratting Certificates issued After Fumigation with.						
H.C.N.	Other fumigant (state method)	After Trapping.	After Poisoning.	Total.	Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.	Total Certificates issued.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

Section X111 - Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.

Inspection and Notices.

Nature and number of Inspections.		Notices served		Result of Serving Notices.
		Statutory Notices.	Other Notices.	
Foreign.	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
Coastwise.	0	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals.	12	Nil	Nil	Nil

Section X1V - Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations 1934 and 1948. * No Change.

Section XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens * No Change.

Section XV1 - Miscellaneous. * No Change.

CLINICS HELD AT THE HEALTH CENTRE, BRIDPORT.

* = seen only by appointment.

MONDAYS.

Moral Welfare Worker	Monday morning.	
Foot Clinic (Elderly Persons)	Monday morning.	*
Relaxation Classes	Monday afternoon.	*
Speech Therapy	Monday afternoon.	*

TUESDAYS.

Speech Therapy	Tuesday morning.	*
Foot Clinic (Elderly Persons)	Tuesday all day.	*

WEDNESDAYS.

Youth Employment	Wednesday afternoon 2 - 5 p.m.	
Hearing Assessment	every 3rd. Wednesday morning in the month.	*
Child Guidance	Alternate Wednesdays.	*

THURSDAYS.

Family Planning	1st. 2nd. and 3rd. Thursday in the month 2 - 4-30 p.m.	*
Cervical Cytology clinic	2nd. Thursday in the month 10 - 11 a.m. 4th. Thursday in the month 10 - 11 a.m. (open session).	*

FRIDAYS.

Child Welfare Clinic	2nd. Friday in the month - H.V. session. 4th. Friday in the month - Dr. in attendance.

Other clinics are held at :-

BEAMINSTER.	Child Welfare.	40 Hogshill St.,	2nd. and 4th. Thursday in the month. 2-4 p.m. Dr. in attendance 2nd. Thurs.
	Speech Therapy.	"	Wednesday afternoon *
	Foot Clinic. (Elderly persons)	"	1st. 2nd. and 3rd. Friday in the month
CHARMOUTH.	Child Welfare.	Mobile Clinic Lower Sea Lane.	4th. Monday in the month 2-4 p.m. Dr. in attendance.
	Foot Clinic. (Elderly persons)	W.I. Hall, Wesley Close.	* Alternate Wednesdays 2-5 p.m.
THORNCOMBE.	Child Welfare.	Mobile Clinic, Village Hall Car Park.	4th. Tuesday in the month. 2-4 p.m. Dr. in attendance.